

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/798,209

Examiner

Jerry Martin Blevins

Applicant(s)

YANG, JIANWEN

Art Unit

2883

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed June 12, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 24-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

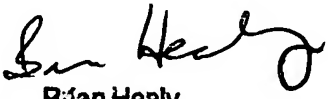
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Brian Healy
Primary Examiner

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 24-31 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 24, the prior art, as exemplified by US Patent 4,533,208 to Stowe, teaches an evanescent optically coupled electronic device (Figures 1 and 2 and throughout text) comprising a waveguide (Figures 1 and 2) comprising a set of parallel carriers (Figure 1, elements 12, 20, column 3, lines 12-58) that define a first plurality of parallel channels and include a first array of fibers (plurality of fibers 40, Figure 2, column 3, lines 12-66) having exposed cores (Figure 1, elements 32-34, column 1, line 65 – column 2, line 7, column 3, lines 33-58) in the first plurality of parallel channels, a second array of fibers (42, Figure 2), and a mechanism for retaining the first array of optical fibers having exposed cores in abutting and facing evanescent optical contact with the individual fibers of the second array of optical fibers (Figure 1, elements 36,38, column 3, lines 12-66). Stowe does not explicitly teach that the waveguide is a backplane waveguide. However, the examiner interprets this limitation as an intended use. Although not explicitly taught, the waveguide of Stowe can be used as a backplane. Stowe also does not explicitly teach that the second array of optical fibers is a ribbon. However, Stowe does teach a plurality of fibers (Figure 2, elements 40,42, column 3, lines 59-66) which serve as the functional equivalent of the claimed ribbon.

Stowe, either alone or in combination with the prior art, neither discloses nor renders obvious at least one electronic card or daughter board including a high speed optical waveguide bus or that the individual fibers of the ribbon have locally increased refractive indices joined by a web of suitable material forming the high speed optical waveguide bus and optically connecting the backplane waveguide and the electronic card with no 90 degree angle turns.

Claims 25-31 are allowed based on their dependence from allowed base claim 24.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerry Martin Blevins whose telephone number is 571-272-8581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on 571-272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JMB



Brian Healy
Primary Examiner